

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 MARTIN 00355 262100Z

64

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 OES-06 DOTE-00 COME-00

INT-05 NSF-02 EB-07 IO-13 MED-03 SCSE-00 SCA-01 PM-04

NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 AGR-10 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-02 PRS-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 FDRE-00 L-03

OPR-02 DHA-02 OC-06 CCO-00 /124 W
----- 006597

O 262000Z AUG 76

FM AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2381

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

SECDEF IMMEDIATE

JCS IMMEDIATE

USCINCLANT IMMEDIATE

USCINCRED IMMEDIATE

USCINCSO IMMEDIATE

COMDT COGARD IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS MARTINIQUE 0355

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, AEMR, FW

SUBJECT: GUADELOUPE VOLCANO ACTIVITY

REF: STATE 211660

1. IN LINE WITH SUGGESTION PARA 6, WE WILL BRING THE COMMO
TEAM PROPOSAL TO THE ATTENTION OF THE PREFET OF GUADELOUPE IN
NEXT FEW DAYS DURING TRIP TO GUADELOUPE. WE BELIEVE THE PROPOSAL
IS USEFUL CONTINGENCY PLANNING IN THE EVENT OF A LARGE SCALE
DISASTER. HOWEVER, AT PRESENT AMERICANS IN GUADELOUPE ARE IN NO
DANGER AND THEY WILL REMAIN SAFE EVEN IN THE EVENT OF A MAJOR
ERUPTION. WE POINTED OUT IN OUR 0354 (NOTAL), THE AREA IN
SOUTHERN BASSE TERRE WHICH IS IN IMMEDIATE DANGER HAS BEEN COM-
pletely EVACUATED OF ALL PEOPLE, INCLUDING THE 10 AMERICANS WHO
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 MARTIN 00355 262100Z

RESIDE BETWEEN VIEUX HABITANTS AND CAPESTERRE. THE TWO CLUB

MEDS, (AT ST. ANNE AND DESHAIES) WHICH ACCOUNT FOR ABOUT 250 OF THE 300-325 AMERICANS WHO MAY BE IN GUADELOUPE ARE AT LEAST 20 MILES FROM THE SOUFRIERE. WHILE WE DO NOT WANT TO UNDERESTIMATE THE DANGERS INVOLVED, AN ERUPTION WOULD HAVE TO DESTROY THE ENTIRE ISLAND OF BASSE TERRE AND PART OF GRANDE TERRE AS WELL, AND DEVASTATE SOME 350 SQUARE MILES, FOR THE CLUB MED TOURISTS TO BE ENDANGERED. NO ONE EXPECTS A DISASTER OF THAT PROPORTION.

2. AT PRESENT, THE SOUFRIERE VOLCANIC ACTIVITY HAS LEVELLED OFF AND IT IS ANYONE'S GUESS WHEN IT MAY ERUPT. BECAUSE OF THE UNCERTAINTY OF THE SITUATION, WE WOULD NOT WANT OUR CONSULAR OFFICER TO BE DETAILED TO GUADELOUPE FOR LONGER THAN ONE WEEK. A ONE WEEK PERIOD WOULD AID THE TEAM TO COORDINATE ITS ACTIVITIES WITH FRENCH OFFICIALS AND COMPLETE ANY PREPARATORY WORK NECESSARY FOR PLANNING AN EVACUATION.

3. WITH RESPECT TO EVACUATION, WE WANT TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS. THE U.S. TOURISTS AT THE CLUB MEDS COULD BE MOVED QUICKLY AND EFFICIENTLY TO THE AIRPORT OR A PORT FOR EVACUATION BY SHIP. ANY OTHER U.S. TOURISTS, AND AT PRESENT THEY ARE FEW IN NUMBER, ARE CONCENTRATED IN THE GOSIER AND ST. PIERRE AREAS AND THEY TOO CAN BE EVACUATED QUICKLY. WE HAVE A TOTAL OF ONLY 35 U.S. CITIZENS NOW RESIDING (EITHER PERMANENTLY OR TEMPORARILY BECAUSE OF EVACUATION FROM BASSE TERRE) IN THE POINTE A PITRE - GOSIER AREA. WE HAVE THEIR NAMES AND ADDRESSES AND WE CAN ARRANGE FOR THEIR EVACUATION FOR VIA AIR OR SHIP WITH MINIMUM OF DIFFICULTY. THERE ARE ONLY SIX OTHER AMERICANS LIVING IN SCATTERED AREAS OF GUADELOUPE. WE BELIEVE THE PROBLEMS CONNECTED WITH EVACUATING THE TOURISTS AND THE 40-50 U.S. RESIDENTS WOULD BE FAIRLY MINIMAL AND DOES NOT REQUIRE THE INDEFINITE PRESENCE OF THE POST'S CONSULAR OFFICER. AT LEAST ONE OF THE COMMO TEAM SHOULD SPEAK FRENCH. A FRENCH SPEAKING STAFF MEMBER COULD BE IMPORTANT TO EASE PROBLEMS OF MAINTAINING CONTACT WITH LOCAL OFFICIALS WHO OFTEN SPEAK NO ENGLISH.

4. FINALLY, THE TEAM SHOULD NOT BE LARGER THAN TWO MEN, AND WHATEVER EQUIPMENT USED SHOULD BE INCONSPICUOUS. WE RECOMMEND DEPARTMENT SHOULD CONSIDER USING A COLLINS KWM2A, A SMALL, PORTAGE SET WITH SUFFICIENT RANGE TO REACH ALL INTERESTED UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 MARTIN 00355 262100Z

RECEIVERS. THE RADIO SHOULD BE TIED INTO EXISTING NETS, AND FOR THIS PURPOSE ARA/RCO SHOULD BE CONSULTED ABOUT WHAT KIND OF EQUIPMENT SHOULD BE USED AND IN WHAT NETS IT SHOULD OPERATE. SHACKLETON

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, VOLCANIC ERUPTIONS, NATURAL DISASTERS, EMERGENCY PLANNING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MARTIN00355
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760326-0888
From: MARTINIQUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760817/aaaaaohs.tel
Line Count: 111
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 211660
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: harterdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 APR 2004 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <21 JAN 2005 by harterdg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GUADELOUPE VOLCANO ACTIVITY
TAGS: PINT, AEMR, SWEL, FW, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006